

Approved For Release 2001/11/23 : CIA-RDP82-00457R002000310008-  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO.

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INFORMANT

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COUNTRY China/Korea

DATE DISTR. 8 November 1948

SUBJECT: Military Information: Korean Troops in  
Manchuria  
25X1A

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1. There are now 120,000 Korean troops in Manchuria. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] reported approximately 200,000 Korean troops in Manchuria in April 1948.)
2. These Korean troops are divided into six Korean volunteer units, five Korean divisions and numerous local self-defense detachments. However, an undetermined small number of these 120,000 Korean troops are with Chinese Communist army units.
3. The Korean volunteer units in Manchuria are known as the Korean 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Volunteer Units. The five Korean divisions in Manchuria are as follows: Korean Independent 1 Division, Korean New 3 Division, Korean Independent 4 Division, Korean Independent 6 Division and Korean 60 Division. [REDACTED] Comment. In paragraph 9 of this report, another source reports a unit known as the Korean Independent 3 Division. [REDACTED] reported that the YANG Ch'ong-u Detachment was also known as the Korean Independent 2 Division.)
4. Each Korean volunteer unit in Manchuria consists of 10,000 troops; each Korean division consists of 5,000 troops. The number of troops in the various local Korean self-defense organizations varies.
5. In the early part of 1947, the Korean Independent 4 and 6 Divisions and the Korean 2, 5 and 6 Volunteer Units arrived in Manchuria from North Korea. All these troops are now under the over-all command of PAK Hyo-sam (朴孝三). [REDACTED] Comment. According to [REDACTED] in April 1948 PAK Hyo-sam was the commanding officer of the Ch'ang P'ai Column, which had a strength of 16,000 men.)
6. In the early part of 1948, the 4 Korean Volunteer Unit, the Korean New 3 Division and the Korean 60 Division arrived in Manchuria from North Korea. All these troops are now under the over-all command of KANG Sin-t'ae (姜信泰). [REDACTED] Comment. KANG Sin-t'ae is also known as KANG Kun and is reported to be the present chief-of-staff of the People's Army.)

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7. The 1 and 3 Korean Volunteer Units and the Korean Independent 1 Division are composed completely of Koreans recruited in Manchuria. The over-all commander of these troops is Yi Yang-chi (李揚之). Yi fought against the Japanese in Manchuria all during the Sino-Japanese War.
8. The Soviet Army authorities in North Korea have been providing for the families of those North Koreans who are now with the Northeast Korean People's Liberation Army in Manchuria.
9. The locations, unit designations and brief descriptions of the Korean Communist (Northeast Korean People's Liberation Army) units now participating in the Changchun offensive are as follows:
  - a. The Korean Independent 3 Division is at Ershihlipao. It consists of four regiments, one of which is composed entirely of Chinese troops. All the troops of this division are equipped with Japanese Model 38 rifles and wear light khaki uniforms. Most of the Korean troops in this division can speak Chinese.
  - b. The Korean Independent 4 Division is in the Chaochiuchut'un (趙酒局屯) area, approximately 15 miles west of Changchun. The troops have an ample supply of rifle ammunition and hand grenades. Their discipline is good and their morale high. Each soldier receives a daily ration of one-half a catty of rice, one-half a catty of kaoliang, three ounces of soybeans and occasionally a few other vegetables.
  - c. The Korean 60 Division is in the Mengchiatun (125-14, 43-51) area. It consists of three regiments. All the troops are equipped with Japanese Model 99 rifles and wear khaki uniforms similar to the summer uniforms formerly worn by the Japanese army troops. Only those officers above the grade of company commander can speak Chinese.
10. Korean Troops in Chiutai Area  
On 20 July 1948, approximately 5,000 Korean troops arrived in Chiutai (125-50, 44-08) from Yenchi (129-31, 42-55).
11. "Northeast People's Liberation Army, May 1948" is inscribed in Chinese characters on the exposed side of the armband worn by all these troops. "New 3 Division of the Korean Volunteer Army" is inscribed on the reverse side of the armband.
12. The commander of these troops is an unidentified Korean approximately forty years of age. His headquarters is in the building opposite the Chiutai Hsien Government building in Chiutai.
13. One thousand of these troops are now in Chiutai; the other four thousand have been sent to various villages in the Chiutai area.
14. The troops are well disciplined and well trained. Their uniforms are new and are made of grayish-yellow cotton cloth. Most of the troops neither speak nor understand the Chinese language.
15. All the troops are equipped with Japanese Model 99 rifles and have ample rifle ammunition. They also have an undetermined number of Japanese Model 99 light machine guns and Japanese heavy machine guns, ten mountain (pack) guns and six grenade launchers are also former Japanese army weapons.

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